



Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) in California

A Fresno County dairy herd was detected with bovine TB (*Mycobacterium bovis*) in January 2008 after a single lymph node lesion was found in a 69-month-old cow during routine slaughter surveillance.

CDFA and USDA personnel are investigating herds that received cattle from or sold cattle to this herd since 2003, and are working closely with the owners to eradicate disease from the herd and avoid possible spread.

At least 85 operations have received cattle from the affected herd since 2003. This includes 52 California dairies, 2 out-of-state dairies, 15 dealers, 1 calf raiser, 1 out-of-state heifer raiser, and 10 slaughter channel traces. To date, 30 operations have been identified as sources of cattle entering the affected herd. Testing herds that received cattle and herds that contributed cattle to the affected herd is ongoing.

TB Testing & Cattle Culled To Date		
	# Herds	# Cattle
Affected Herds	1	~5,000
Tested Herds	26	36,658
Depopulated Cattle	---	387

California regained its TB Accredited Free Status on April 15, 2005, two years after losing its' free status and depopulating the last of three bovine TB-affected central valley dairy herds. California can maintain its Free status if the affected herd is depopulated, no additional affected herds are detected within the next 48 months, and the tracing of cows and testing of herds linked to the affected herd is completed within approximately seven months.

California Surveillance*

Last year, nearly 773,000 adult cattle slaughtered in California were inspected for TB; 2,000 suspicious samples were submitted for evaluation and all but three were negative for TB. Two of the three *M. bovis* positive samples came from Mexican-origin feedlot steers. Two additional feedlot steers (killed in other states) traced from California to Mexico in 2007. The third positive sample was from a cow sold by an infected New Mexico dairy.

In 2007, private veterinarians did over 84,000 tuberculin caudal fold skin tests in California, and had 348 responders (0.41% response rate). To prevent the spread of bovine TB, producers must prevent contact between their breeding cattle and Mexican-origin cattle. In addition, dairy cattle imported from other states into California require a negative TB test before movement.

National TB Report*

Between 2005 and 2008, 25 newly affected herds were detected in the United States. Four affected herds were detected in 2005 (1 in Arizona and 3 in Minnesota). Nine herds were detected in 2006 (2 in Minnesota and 7 in Michigan). In 2007, 7 affected herds were detected; 2 each in Minnesota and Michigan, and 1 each in New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Colorado. One California dairy and 4 Minnesota beef herds have been detected in 2008.

Colorado: One affected herd was detected in 2007 after an infected rodeo bull was found during routine slaughter surveillance in Texas. This herd was depopulated.

Michigan: One small dairy and a captive cervid ranch were detected and depopulated in 2007. Seven affected herds were detected and depopulated in 2006 (5 beef and 2 dairy); 2 of these herds were outside the endemic zone and 1 herd was a re-infection. A test-and-removal plan continues on 2 dairies detected in 2004. Since 1995, 525 infected whitetail deer have been detected from over 145,000 examined. Michigan has three TB zones: Free, Modified Accredited Advanced (MAA) and Modified Accredited (MA).

Minnesota: Eleven affected beef herds have been detected from 2005–2008: 3 in 2005, 2 in 2006, 2 in 2007, and 4 in 2008. All affected herds detected before 2008 have been depopulated. Seventeen cases of bovine TB have been confirmed in Minnesota whitetail deer. Minnesota is classified as MAA, but their status will likely be downgraded to MA with the finding of the eleventh herd.

New Mexico: One large affected dairy herd was detected and depopulated in 2007; over 300 traces out of this dairy were investigated. One affected dairy herd detected in 2003 remains under a test-and-removal plan. New Mexico has split-state status (Free and MAA).

Oklahoma: One beef herd was detected by slaughter surveillance and was depopulated in 2007.

Texas: No new affected herds were found in 2007. The last known infected herd was depopulated in September 2004 and Texas was declared TB free in September 2006.

CDFA Animal Health Branch Offices

Sacramento (HQ)	916-654-1447
Modesto	209-491-9350
Ontario	909-947-4462
Redding	530-225-2140
Tulare	559-685-3500
USDA/APHIS/VS	916-854-3900 or 877-741-3690
http://www.cdfa.ca.gov or http://www.aphis.usda.gov	

* All references to years refer to the Federal TB Fiscal Year: October 1 – September 30. We are now in FY08, which goes from 10/1/07 to 9/30/08.